

MILITARY AND VETERANS PROGRAMS (MVP)

Military Withdrawal

New Mexico State University understands that our military students may be called to active duty, specialized training, or disaster relief efforts with little notice. U.S. active-duty military students wishing to withdraw from all their classes must present their orders and their request for full withdrawal, as indicated below. However, the below policy does not pertain to a student's basic and/or annual training. A student who has an order for training is encouraged to formally request, through the proper military chain of command, a postponement of their orders until the summer or the end of the semester they are currently enrolled in. If a student's request for postponement is denied, the student may then follow the steps below but must provide documentation that their postponement request was formally denied.

All NMSU students called for active duty must take the following steps to withdraw from all their classes:

1. **Military and Veterans Programs (MVP):** TA/VA students ordered to Active Duty must provide a copy of orders to the MVP office, in Corbett Center Student Union, Room 244, or by email mvp@nmsu.edu. To assist in reporting accurate information to their military service or the VA Regional Office, the student should also provide, in writing, the last day of class attendance.
2. **NMSU University Student Records:** All students presenting their orders to the University Student Records, (575) 646-3411, or records@nmsu.edu, will receive a military withdrawal from classes and full tuition and fees refund for that semester.
3. **Bookstore:** Students who still have their receipts for textbooks purchased the semester in which they are called to active duty will be given a full refund for these textbook purchases when they present their orders. Please contact the bookstore for assistance at (575) 646-4431 or nmsu@bkstr.com.

Military Readmission Policy

New Mexico State University (NMSU) acknowledges that students may be temporarily unable to attend classes or be required to suspend their studies to perform military service. NMSU encourages such students to resume their education once a military service obligation has ended and adopts this policy to ensure the timely readmission of such students.

In accordance with federal regulations, 34 C.F.R. § 668.18 and the Department of Defense (DoD) Voluntary Education Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the university will promptly readmit service members who seek readmission to a program that was interrupted due to a uniformed service obligation.

Eligibility

This policy shall apply to (1) service members who are unable to attend classes for more than 30 consecutive days, and (2) service members who are unable to attend classes for less than 30 days (about 4 and a half weeks) when such an absence would result in a withdrawal from NMSU.

A student is eligible for readmission under this policy if, during an absence, the student performs uniformed service, voluntary or involuntary, in the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserve, active duty, active duty for training, or full-time National Guard (under

federal authority). The cumulative length of all absences for uniformed service (service time only) must not exceed five years.

Notification of Military Service

The student (or an appropriate officer of the armed forces or official of the Department of Defense) must give written notice of such service to the school as far in advance as is reasonable under the circumstances. Such notice does not need to indicate when the student will return to NMSU.

Notification of Intent to Return

The student must also give written notice of Intent to Return and supporting official military obligation documentation to University Student Records within three years after the completion of the period of service.

Tuition and Fees

If the student is readmitted to the same program, NMSU will assess the tuition and fee charges that would have been assessed for the academic year during which the student left (first academic year only). However, if veterans' education benefits or other service member education benefits will pay the higher tuition and fee charges that other students in the program are paying for the year, NMSU will assess those charges to the student.

Readmission Requirements

A returning student will be permitted to reenroll in the next class(es) scheduled in the same academic program unless the student requests a later date of re-enrollment or agrees to a different program. A returning student will be readmitted into the same academic program they were enrolled in before the military service obligation. If the exact program no longer exists, the student must be admitted to the program that is most similar, unless the student requests or agrees to admission to a different program. Returning students will be reenrolled with the same enrollment status, number of completed credit hours, and academic standing as the last academic year of attendance.

If NMSU determines that a returning student is not prepared to resume the program with the same academic status or is unable to complete the degree, NMSU will make reasonable efforts to enable the student to resume or complete the program at no additional cost to the student.

NMSU is not required to readmit the student if it determines:

- that there are no reasonable efforts it can take to prepare the student to resume the program at the point where they left off or to enable them to complete the program, or
- that after it makes reasonable efforts (those that do not place an undue hardship on the institution), the student is not prepared to resume or complete the program.

"Undue hardship" means an action requiring significant difficulty or expense considering the overall financial resources of NMSU and the impact of such action on its operation. NMSU has the burden to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the student is not prepared to resume the program with the same academic status at the point where they left off or that they will not be able to complete the program.

In accordance with federal regulations, returning students who receive a dishonorable or bad conduct discharge, general court-martial, or federal or state prison sentence from the Armed Forces (including the National Guard and Reserves) are not eligible for readmission under this policy.

Students are encouraged to speak with Military and Veterans Programs regarding any absence due to military service. For more information, please contact mvp@nmsu.edu.

Military Experience Waiver

Before graduating, during the student's junior and/or senior year, NMSU students are required to take two 3-credit Viewing a Wider World (VWW) upper-division (300-400 level) courses. These courses emphasize the international character and multicultural influences in study and strengthen information retrieval skills. There are two options that NMSU allows for replacing one of the two courses (3 credits) of VWW requirement with another form of educational experience, these are: (Study Abroad Experience or Military Experience for students who have served at least four weeks of U.S. Military Foreign/Sea Service in a foreign country.

Steps needed to request a Military Experience Waiver (replacing 3 credits of VWW):

1. Obtain a copy of your DD-214 or Memo from your Commanding Officer proving your 4-week deployment
2. Provide the above copy to your college academic advisor to request a waiver
3. Wait for your college to approve and confirm

Note: Credits are not being waived, only one of the two courses is being waived within the requirement. You may still need to complete three credits in consultation with your academic advisor. Please contact the MVP or your academic advisor for questions and concerns.